

The Bankstons In New Zealand

November-December 2021

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November started out with the annual Men's Prayer Advance hosted by a church north of Auckland. Because of Covid restrictions and their area being in Level 3 Lockdown they had to livestream the Prayer Advance to the other churches. Another church close to us brought their men over to our church to watch the preaching together and to have some good food and fellowship together. It was a blessing to all that attended.



On November 16th our son, Logan, and his family arrive in New Zealand. After spending 7 days in a Managed Isolation Quarantine (MIQ) hotel, and having COVID tests every 3 days, they were released for three more days of isolation in one of our church family's home, until their Day nine test was done. Even though we could see them, we were not able to touch them. It was hard!! Finally, we were reunited. They spent a few days with us and then moved to Masterton to oversee the church there. We witnessed so many miracles as they made their way over here. Brittany only received a six-month Visa, so they are in the process of getting her physical and paperwork done to submit for a Resident Visa. Please pray that there will be no problems with her receiving either her Residence Visa or a two-year Visitor Visa.

In December we had our final Champions In Action (CIA) Friday night club. We had a little party and held a Nativity themed Escape Room for them. The kids had a great time. We had a new boy, who has been attending church with his family, start to come. CIA will resume in February. We also held a Progressive Dinner for our College & Careers and Young Marrieds group. We went to three different houses each had a different portion of the meal (i.e., Appetizers, Main Course, or Desserts). We played some games, sang Christmas Hymns and Guy gave a devotion. We had a great turn out for this activity.

Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service was well attended. It is a great time of singing Christmas Hymns, hearing the Gospel and then showing what it would be like if we let our lights go out. There was a challenge for the New Year to get the Gospel out in our own community. A young Chinese lady and her daughter attended. They didn't know if they were allowed to attend since in China only Christians can attend church. A family in our church is giving her a Chinese tract. Praying they will return.

The Monday after Christmas we attended our annual Family Camp. We had to find another location to meet at because of government restrictions. This resulted in a smaller group, but we had good preaching and fellowship. While the adults had a time of prayer in the morning, the kids were shown different stories from the Torch Lighters Heroes of the Faith series. One young girl from the Masterton church has been enquiring about salvation. Due to Government mandates only the vaccinated can go to a barber which allowed Guy to use his old professional barber skills.

Thank you so much for your continual prayers and support. May God richly bless you for your faithfulness. God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston

Progressive Dinner - We Did Desserts



Family/Fellowship Camp



Guy's Old Skills at Work



Praises

- Men's Prayer Advance
- Able to have Family Camp
- Logan and Brittany's arrival to NZ
- Seeing more visitors attend.

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Brittany's Visa Approval
- Government's mandates for "No Jab, No Job, Hate Speech and Conversion Therapy law to be overturned.